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Shellfish

Market Review and Outlook

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SHELLFISH MARKET REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

U.S. Department of Commerce
Juanita M. Kreps, Secretary

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Richard A. Frank, Administrator

National Marine Fisheries Service
Robert W. Schoning, Director

Prepared by
Industry and Consumer Services Division
John T. Everett, Chief

Principal contributor:
Roger W. Hutchinson
Telephone: (202) 634-7518

Research Assistant:
Jens Knutson

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SUMMARY

Supplies of major shellfish products in the first half of 1977 were, with the exception of American lobster, much improved from supplies available in the previous two years. The gains covered all sources: inventories, landings, and imports. Particularly noticeable was the increase in domestic landings of shrimp, scallops, and snow crab. Higher landings of shrimp and scallops were associated with improved resources; increased effort resulted in record landings of snow crab. Landings of American lobster and king crab are seasonally low in the first half of the year, and comparisons with previous years are not very meaningful.

Imports of shrimp and scallops were at record levels in the first half of the year. Increased imports of lobster tails have come from countries which, in the past, have supplied comparatively small amounts to the United States. For example, receipts from Nicaragua doubled from the previous year.

Higher supplies of shellfish products resulted in some softening in prices. This is viewed as a normal reaction by the market, not as an indication of any underlying weakness in demand. At the same time, it is likely that the sharp price increases of 1975 and 1976 have affected demand for shellfish, and this has made prices more sensitive to changes in supplies. Strong market demand for shellfish products is expected through the first half of 1978. Supplies of some major shellfish are expected to be sufficiently high so that prices will tend to be influenced by supplies. It is possible that prices of shrimp, lobster tails, and king crab could move lower but, generally, higher prices are likely for scallops and American lobster.

SHRIMP

Supplies of fresh and frozen shrimp improved considerably during the first half of 1977. Although demand for shrimp continued to be high, the market was clearly reacting to the higher supplies: wholesale prices failed to follow the rising trend evident in the last 2 years. Total supplies of fresh and frozen shrimp available in the first half of 1977 were 256.7 million pounds 1/ --12 percent above 1976 (table 1). Landings of shrimp rose 4 percent on the strength of heavy Gulf production. Cold storage holdings of shrimp at the beginning of 1977 were up 29 percent from last year and were a major factor in the increased supplies available. Total imports of fresh and frozen shrimp rose 10 percent to a record 134.7 million pounds.

1/ Unless otherwise specified, all figures for shrimp are in heads-off weight.

Table 1.--Supplies and utilization of fresh and frozen shrimp, January-June 1976 and 1977

(Heads-off weight)

Component	1976	1977	Change
	Million pounds		Percent
Beginning inventory	47.4	61.0	+ 29
Landings 1/	58.5	61.0	+ 4
Imports	122.3	134.7	+ 10
Total supply	228.2	256.7	+ 12
Ending inventory	42.1	63.4	+ 51
Canned pack	13.1	16.6	+ 27
Exports	13.0	13.0	-
Apparent consumption	160.0	163.7	+ 2

1/ South Atlantic, Gulf, and New England only.

Wholesale prices for shrimp in 1977 did not reach the record highs of 1976. Instead of rising through the first 5 months as in 1975 and 1976, prices began to weaken in late March. This weakening was associated with the higher supplies in the market and did not indicate lower demand. The weakness was inevitable. Wholesale prices had risen sharply since 1975 because available supplies were low. Average wholesale prices for 26-30 count shrimp at New York reached $4.04 per pound in March 1977; in 1976, these prices peaked at $4.30 in June. These prices compare with highs of $2.88 in 1975 and $2.74 in 1973-74. The sharp increases in prices beginning in 1975 were caused primarily by low supplies, and the improved supply picture in 1977 has lessened support for these prices.

A major cause of higher supplies in the first half of 1977 was inventories. Total inventories at the end of June were 72.4 million pounds (product weight)--48 percent above the 1975-76 average. Total inventories of shrimp in the Pacific region at the end of June were 73 percent above last year because of higher imports of and slower movement of shrimp from Mexico. Holdings in the Gulf were up 50 percent primarily because of heavy landings in Louisiana. Holdings of shrimp in the Middle Atlantic region also rose 50 percent on the basis of higher imports. Much of the inventory gain resulted from increased holdings of raw headless shrimp except in the Middle Atlantic region where half of the gain came from increased holdings of peeled shrimp.

Landings of shrimp in the South Atlantic and Gulf in the first half of 1977 were up 5 percent to 60.5 million pounds. Adverse weather conditions hampered fishing effort in the first quarter and were thought to have been a major factor in the failure of the South Atlantic white shrimp season. First half gains can be attributed to heavy landings in May and June, particularly in Louisiana. Total Gulf landings in these 2 months were 45.1 million pounds--26 percent above 1976 and 85 percent above the average for the 1973-75 period.

Total landings of shrimp in the New England region were 458,000 pounds through June--64 percent below 1976. In the Pacific, landings of shrimp in Oregon doubled from 1976. Landings in Alaska were 24.6 million pounds off 10 percent from 1976, reflecting lower landings in the first quarter. Landings in May and June were up 21 percent; most of this production came from the Chignik and South Peninsula areas.

Total imports of shrimp in the first 6 months of 1977 rose 8 percent from 1976 to 113.9 million pounds (product weight)--19 percent above the 1971-75 average. Receipts of raw headless and peeled raw shrimp rose 6 and 5 percent, respectively. Higher imports of raw headless shrimp resulted mostly from increased receipts from Mexico (up 23 percent) whereas the increase in imports of peeled raw shrimp was caused mainly by higher receipts from Asia, principally India, Indonesia, and Thailand.

Table 2.--U.S. imports of raw headless shrimp by country of origin, January-June 1976 and 1977

(Product weight)

Country	1976	1977	Change
	Million pounds		Percent
N. America			
Mexico	19.4	23.8	+ 23
Panama	4.7	4.8	+ 2
Nicaragua	3.0	3.6	+ 20
Other	4.6	5.2	+ 13
Total	31.7	37.4	+ 18
S. America			
Ecuador	3.1	3.8	+ 23
Colombia	2.6	2.0	- 23
Venezuela	3.2	1.9	- 41
Surinam	2.4	1.8	- 25
Guyana	2.3	.9	- 61
Other	1.8	2.2	+ 22
Total	15.5	12.6	- 19
Europe			
Total	.2	.6	+ 200
Asia			
Iran	.2	2.1	+ 950
Bangladesh	1.8	1.7	- 6
India	2.4	1.2	- 50
Kuwait	.7	1.0	+ 43
Other	3.4	2.6	- 24
Total	8.5	8.6	+ 1
Australia & Oceania			
Total	.2	.2	-
Africa			
Total	.5	.4	- 20
Grand total	56.6	59.8	+ 6

Table 3.--U.S. imports of peeled raw shrimp by country of origin, January-June 1976 and 1977

(Product weight)

Country	1976	1977	Change
	-Million pounds-		- Percent -
N. America			
Mexico	11.0	10.4	- 6
Other	2.8	1.8	- 36
Total	13.8	12.2	- 12
S. America			
Total	1.6	2.9	+ 81
Europe			
Total	.4	.4	-
Asia			
India	19.5	20.9	+ 7
Thailand	.9	1.6	+ 78
Indonesia	.8	1.5	+ 88
Hong Kong	1.3	1.1	- 15
Other	3.8	3.4	- 11
Total	26.3	28.5	+ 8
Australia & Oceania			
Total	.1	.2	+100
Africa			
Total	.4	1.0	+150
Grand total	42.7	44.9	+ 5

Table 4.--U.S. imports of shrimp by count size, January-June 1976 and 1977, 1/

(Product weight)

Count size	1976	1977	Change
	-Million pounds-		- Percent -
Shell-On			
Under 15	7.0	9.6	+ 36
15 - 20	4.6	5.9	+ 28
21 - 25	4.2	4.8	+ 15
26 - 30	3.8	4.6	+ 20
31 - 40	5.8	6.6	+ 14
41 - 50	3.9	3.5	- 9
51 - 60	2.3	2.0	- 14
61 - 70	1.2	1.8	+ 49
71 and over	1.3	1.8	+ 43
Other	8.4	9.2	+ 10
Total	42.6	46.7	+ 10
Peeled			
Under 15	1.1	1.2	+ 8
15 - 20	1.2	1.2	+ 10
21 - 25	1.2	1.4	+ 14
26 - 30	1.5	1.4	- 2
31 - 40	1.9	1.8	- 6
41 - 50	1.2	1.3	+ 14
51 - 60	1.0	1.1	+ 10
61 - 70	.9	1.0	+ 7
71 and over	16.3	20.1	+ 23
Other	8.0	7.8	- 2
Total	34.3	37.2	+ 8

1/ Represents receipts of shell-on and peeled shrimp at certain customs districts. Does not include all shrimp imported into the United States.

Statistics on imports by count size indicated that much of the increase in imports of shell-on shrimp consisted of the larger sizes, as might be expected if they came largely from Mexico. In contrast, much of the increase in imports of peeled shrimp consisted of the 71-and-over count size characteristic of shrimp from Asia.

Apparent consumption of fresh and frozen shrimp in the first half of 1977 was 164.1 million pounds--3 percent above 1976 and 4 percent above the 1971-75 average. For the most part, changes in demand for shrimp appear to be associated with changes in population and personal income. The year-to-year variation in apparent consumption seems to be related to available supplies, which, when low, tend to restrict consumption.

OUTLOOK

Estimates for the second half of 1977 are for new supplies of fresh and frozen shrimp of 235 to 240 million pounds and apparent consumption of 190 to 195 million pounds or an excess of about 45 million pounds. These estimates would result in inventories of nearly 100 million pounds at the end of the year compared to an average of 78 million pounds during the past 5 years. The second half of the year has historically been characterized by inventory buildup as new supplies of shrimp exceed consumption and are carried over to the new year. New supplies of shrimp averaged 221.7 million pounds for the second half of the year in 1971-75 while apparent consumption averaged 172.1 million pounds, a difference of 50 million pounds. In 1976, new supplies exceeded consumption by 47 million pounds.

Because of these higher inventories, prices are not expected to increase during the latter half of 1977 and the first half of 1978 as has been the pattern in previous years. The reportedly high inventories of Mexican shrimp on the West Coast indicate that prices for the larger sizes of shrimp will be particularly susceptible to weakness in the coming months, although significant price declines are not expected.

A heavy volume of imports in the first quarter of 1978, as in 1976 and 1977, would likely prevent prices from rising but would not necessarily result in a significant price decline. Any major price decline seems unlikely because of strong demand. However, if imports of the larger size shrimp enter the market in quantities similar to those of 1974, a major decline could occur. In summary, the market in the next 6 to 9 months is expected to be sensitive to the level of new supplies, especially the market for the larger shrimp.

SCALLOPS

Total supplies of scallops were an estimated 28.8 million pounds in January-June 1977--38 percent above 1976 and twice the 1971-75 average. Inventories beginning the year were about 2-1/2 times the amount beginning 1976, while new supplies of scallops (landings and imports) rose 26 percent to 23.9 million pounds. With heavy supplies, prices declined to yearly lows in the second quarter. Apparent consumption of scallops increased 36 percent over the previous year to 24.4 million pounds. This was also twice the 1971-75 average.

Table 5.--Supply and utilization of scallops, January-June 1976 and 1977

(Meat weight)

Component	1976	1977	Change
	-Million pounds-		- Percent -
Beginning inventory	2.0	4.9	+ 145
Landings 1/	7.6	11.5	+ 51
Imports	11.3	12.4	+ 10
Total supply	20.3	28.8	+ 38
Ending inventory	3.0	4.4	+ 47
Apparent consumption	17.9	24.4	+ 36

1/ Sea scallop landings only.

Domestic landings of sea scallops in the first 6 months of 1977 were at the highest level since 1966. Landings at New Bedford were 57 percent ahead of 1976 and three times the 1971-75 average. Landings in Virginia were four times the 1971-75 average. In New Jersey, landings rose 9 percent from the year earlier to 1.1 million pounds, but were nine times the 1971-75 average. Domestic landings tend to reach seasonal highs beginning in June, and, judging from the levels reached in the June-July period of 1977, domestic production appears to be have peaked. For example, landings of 2.5 million pounds at New Bedford in June-July 1977 were about the same as in 1976.

In January-June 1977, imports of scallops from Canada accounted for 90 percent of total United States imports, compared to 83 percent in 1976, and 60 percent in 1971-75. Imports of scallops from Canada were up 19 percent from the previous year to a record 11.1 million pounds. Total imports of scallops increased 9 percent to a record 12.4 million pounds. Lower imports of scallops from countries other than Canada are associated with lower prices in the United States.

Landings of scallops in Canada are now being regulated through a management plan that began March 15, 1977. This plan limits the landings of individual scallop vessels. For the year beginning March 15, vessels are limited to 14-day trips, dock to dock, and 10 days of fishing time per trip. During each trip, they are permitted to land up to 30,000 pounds. Total landings per vessel in the 4-month period March 15 to July 15 were limited to 180,000 pounds. The same limit applies to the two succeeding 4-month periods.

Apparent consumption of scallops through June 1977 was an estimated 24.4 million pounds--up 36 percent from 1976 and twice the 1971-75 average. The rate of apparent consumption reached an estimated 6.2 million pounds in June alone. With seasonally heavy supplies in the summer, there is a comparable seasonal increase in buying as prices fall to the lowest levels of the year.

The high level of consumption is effectively clearing the market of excess supplies and creating a market sensitive to current supplies available. This effect was discernible in early August as supplies from Canada declined the result of the new landings quotas and prices subsequently rose. For example, during this period wholesale prices at Boston rose from $1.65 to $1.78 per pound.

OUTLOOK

Supplies of scallops in the last quarter of 1977 are expected to be about the same as in 1976. New supplies of scallops in the fourth quarter are estimated at 9.4 to 9.8 million pounds with inventories of 4.5 to 5.0 million pounds. Apparent consumption should continue high and may show a moderate increase over 1976. Prices have strengthened recently and are likely to increase more in the fourth quarter on the basis of seasonally lower supplies.

AMERICAN LOBSTER

Total supplies of American lobster in the first half of 1977 were 21.9 million pounds--5 percent below the year earlier. A 7-percent decline in total imports of American lobster from Canada to 16.8 million pounds offset the slight increase in domestic landings to 5.1 million pounds resulting in the overall decline. Price movements were in line with those of prior years. The supply of Amercian lobster during the first quarter was seasonally low, and this caused prices to reach seasonal highs. Increased supplies in the second quarter caused prices to fall.

Table 6.--Supply of American lobster, January-June, 1976 and 1977

(Live weight)

Component	1976	1977	Change
	Thousand pounds		Percent
Landings	4,990	5,124	+ 3
Imports	18,103	16,822	- 7
Total supply	23,093	21,946	- 5

Total landings of American lobster in the first half of 1977 rose slightly from the previous year on the basis of higher landings in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Landings in Maine, New York, and New Jersey were down from 1976. Maine landings of American lobster were 3.2 million pounds, down slightly from a year ago but still 11 percent above the 1971-75 average.

In Maine, landings in the first half of the year represent 15 to 20 percent of the total for the year and generally reflect both the effects of weather conditions on fishing effort and the effects of seawater conditions on lobster growth and activity. Generally, no real significance should be attributed to minor variations in the first-half landings as an indicator of lobster landings during the rest of the year.

Imports of American lobster from Canada in the first 6 months of 1977 were off 7 percent from last year. Total imports were unusually high in the first half of 1976 and the lower volume this year is not indicative of a downward trend.

Table 7.--United States imports of American lobster from Canada, January-June, 1971-75 average, 1976 and 1977

(Live weight)

Component	1971-75 average	1976	1977	Change 1976 to 1977
	Million pounds			Percent
Live	9.7	10.6	9.7	- 8
In airtight containers	4.4	5.4	6.2	+ 15
Other	2.0	2.0	1.0	- 50
Total	16.1	18.1	16.8	- 7

Exvessel and wholesale prices in the first half of 1977 were influenced by the seasonal variability in supply. While demand influences cannot be fully discounted, the sharp price fluctuations for American lobster in the first few months of the year can usually be traced to supply conditions. This can be seen clearly in the first quarter when supplies of American lobster are at the lowest level of the year. With fishing productivity off because of adverse weather conditions in early 1977, exvessel prices rose to a record $3.00 per pound--8 percent above the 1976 high. As the supply situation improved in April, exvessel prices dropped to $1.89 per pound--10 percent below the April 1976 exvessel price.

OUTLOOK

Normal seasonal patterns of supply and prices will be evident in the next few months for American lobster. The major influence during this time will be the severity of the coming winter and how it affects fishing effort. Landings of American lobster in Maine for 1977 are expected to show a moderate decline from the 19 million pounds landed in 1976, and this should result in a slight decline in total U.S. landings. Total imports for the year are also expected to be down from the 29.1 million pounds imported in 1976.

LOBSTER TAILS

Total supplies of lobster tails in the first half of 1977 increased 22 percent over the previous year. Inventories beginning the year were more than double the amount available at the beginning of 1976. Total imports were up 5 percent to 18.9 million pounds; imports of warm-water lobster tails rose 15 percent while imports of cold-water lobster tails declined slightly. Much of the increase in total imports came in the first quarter. In the second quarter, total imports were only slightly above 1976. Apparent consumption of lobster tails was 19.8 million pounds in the first 6 months of 1977--a 16 percent increase.

Table 8.--Supply and utilization of lobster tails, January-June, 1971-75, 1976 and 1977

Component	1971-75 average	1976	1977	Change 1976 to 1977
	- -Million pounds - -			- Percent -
Beginning inventory	5.5	2.7	6.3	+ 133
Imports	18.4	18.0	18.9	+ 5
Total supply	23.9	20.7	25.2	+ 22
Ending inventory	5.0	3.7	5.4	+ 46
Apparent consumption	18.9	17.0	19.8	+ 16

Inventories in the first half of 1977 were significantly higher than in 1976, but only 15 percent above the 1971-75 average. The higher beginning inventories in 1977 reportedly consisted of a significant proportion of warm-water lobster tails. Considering the high imports of warm-water lobster tails in the first half, it appears that inventories of warm-water lobster tails were not reduced during this time.

It seems likely that the anticipated closure of the Brazilian lobster fishery in the second quarter of 1977 prompted an increase in United States imports of warm-water lobster tails from other countries in the fourth quarter of 1976 and into the first quarter of 1977. As an example, imports of warm-water lobster tails from Central American and Caribbean countries in the first quarter of 1977 were up 56 percent from the previous year, largely the result of a doubling in imports from Nicaragua. The fishing moratorium in Brazil was scheduled to cover 3 months in 1977, March, April, and May, but was shortened to cover only March and April. This allowed greater imports from Brazil than had been anticipated. Increased imports from all countries led to an oversupply in the market and falling prices.

The high apparent consumption of lobster tails in the first half of 1977 would seem to indicate an underlying strength to the market. According to industry sources, however, this was true for cold-water lobster tails, but not so for warm-water lobster tails. Movement of warm-water lobster tails was not high enough given heavier supplies to support the market, and prices weakened in June.

Wholesale prices for 6-8 ounce cold-water lobster tails rose from $7.36 per pound in February to $7.59 in June, indicating strength in the market for cold-water lobster tails. Wholesale prices for lobster tails from Brazil were steady from January through May before increased imports from Brazil in June initiated a price decline. In the second quarter, receipts of lobster tails were down and the market strengthened for the lower priced warm-water lobster tails from Asia, indicating an apparent substitution for the Brazilian product. For lobster tails from Asia, wholesale prices averaged $5.50 per pound for the 6-8 ounce size in the first quarter and rose to $5.78 in May.

The price differential between cold-water and warm-water lobster tails has widened significantly in recent months. In June 1976, this differential was $0.97 per pound for the 6-8 ounce size and increased to $1.61 in June 1977. Before 1976, it was rare for this differential to exceed $1 per pound. There appears to be less willingness on the part of buyers of cold-water lobster tails to trade down to the lower priced warm-water lobster tails even as the price differential widens.

OUTLOOK

Total supplies of lobster tails should remain high in the fourth quarter of 1977 and into the first quarter of 1978; nevertheless, the overall market is expected to gain strength. Industry sources indicate that there has been a significant amount of inventory liquidation of warm-water lobster tails taking place while prices have been declining. This situation should be temporary. The market for warm-water lobster tails is expected to firm as inventories are reduced.

Total supplies of lobster tails in the fourth quarter of 1977 are estimated at 11.5 to 12.0 million pounds, moderately above the fourth quarter of 1976. Inventories are expected to be 4.9 to 5.4 million pounds while imports may be 6.4 to 6.9 million pounds. Wholesale prices for warm-water lobster tails at the end of September were down 10 percent, or 50 to 75 cents below comparable prices in 1976, while total supplies of lobster tails ranged 15 to 25 percent higher in the April-August period. These prices are more in line with the higher supplies, and further declines seem unlikely.

Markets for cold-water lobster tails may weaken in the first quarter of 1978 as supplies seasonally increase. Recent price movements for cold-water lobster tails may indicate a preference for the smaller sizes over the larger sizes. Wholesale prices for the larger size lobster tails declined in the third quarter while prices for the smaller sizes remained steady. Supplies of cold-water lobster tails are seasonally low in the third and fourth quarters, and price movements suggest that the market has peaked. As supplies increase in the first quarter of 1978, prices may be more likely to decline.

WEST COAST CRAB

Total landings of king and snow crab were 98.8 million pounds in the first half of 1977--up 16 percent from the 85.5 million pounds landed in 1976. The king crab catch was a seasonally low 4.4 million pounds, because most production areas were closed to fishing in the first half of 1977. Increased effort in the snow crab fishery resulted in a record 94.4 million pounds of snow crab being landed. Landings of snow crab from the Bering Sea more than doubled from 1976, offsetting minor declines in all other areas of Alaska.

Prices for king crab strengthened considerably in the second quarter of 1977 as inventories began to decline. Wholesale prices for king crab meat at New York rose from $6.05 per pound at the beginning of April to $6.65 at the end of June. Prices in September averaged $7 per pound. Giving strength to these prices was the decline in total inventories of king crab from a high of 22 million pounds at the beginning of February to 8.5 million pounds at the end of June. Cold storage holdings of king crab sections dropped from 16.2 million pounds to 5.2 million pounds during this period. Holdings of king crab meat peaked at 6.2 million pounds at the beginning of April before falling to 3.2 million pounds at the end of June.

Markets for snow crab also strengthened in the second quarter of 1977. Despite record landings, wholesale prices for snow crab meat showed little weakness and moved up sharply in June as the harvest season was ending. The strength in this market was associated with strong demand both for export to Japan and for domestic markets. Total cold storage holdings of snow crab were up sharply in the first half of 1977, reaching 11.6 million pounds at the end of June--52 percent above last year. This increase consisted entirely of higher inventories of snow crab sections, which reached 9 million pounds at the end of June, twice the 1976 level. The combination of higher holdings of snow crab sections and increasing prices is taken as an indication of the growth in the domestic market for snow crab.

OUTLOOK

Seasonally heavy landings of king crab in September-December 1977 are expected to be about the same as the 95 million pounds landed last year. The negotiated exvessel price at Kodiak was initially set at a minimum of 77 cents per pound this year compared to 60 cents in 1976. Because of poor landings at Kodiak at the start of the season, the exvessel price rose to $1.52 per pound. In mid-October, exvessel prices had fallen to $1.25 to $1.35 per pound following the opening of the Bering Sea fishery on September 15. About 70 percent of total king crab landings will come from the Bering Sea.

Wholesale prices of king crab through the end of the year are likely to remain high although seasonal declines would normally be expected. Price increases during June, July and August were associated with limited supplies. This influence is being removed as supplies of king crab increase in the September-December period; its absence would ordinarily be expected to result in seasonal price declines.

The major influence on wholesale prices of king crab in the coming months will be the increased exvessel prices. This can be expected to initially keep wholesale prices high, but the market reaction to these higher prices will be the principal factor determining later movement in wholesale prices. The impact of reduced landings at Kodiak may be suggested as follows. Landings of king crab at Kodiak accounted for 17 percent of total king crab landings in 1976. If landings at Kodiak are cut in half in 1977, then total landings would decline by about 10 percent. With supplies of king crab limited and demand apparently strong, a 10 percent decline in landings can be significant.

The market reaction to higher wholesale prices is crucial. Higher prices will likely have an adverse effect on retail grocery and export markets. Anticipated declines in those markets could offset any declines in production, and could leave the food service market to absorb almost all of the 1977 production at the higher prices. The higher prices would give an incentive to find lower priced products as substitutes. Ignoring any considerations other than price, snow crab would be a close and convenient substitute. Rising prices tend to increase the volatility of prices in the market. Prices for king crab should be more volatile in the coming year. Only extremely short supplies and/or high demand can moderate this condition.

Production of snow crab will be limited until 1978 and this should allow current high inventories to be reduced. Wholesale prices for snow crab weakened recently and this is attributed in part to lessened demand for snow crab because of the onset of the king crab season. Earlier, supplies of king crab were limited, prices were rising, and demand had apparently shifted to snow crab products as

substitutes. The current supply situation for king crab is likely to increase demand for snow crab leading to strength in markets for snow crab.

SURF CLAM

Markets for surf clams have adjusted to the sharply lower supplies available. Prices have stabilized in 1977 and significant fluctuations in the coming months are not expected.

In the coming year, both surf clams and ocean quahog clams are expected to come under the regulatory authority of the Middle Atlantic Regional Fishery Management Council. Management plans expected to be adopted will cover surf clams and ocean quahog clams outside 3 miles (individual States will retain control over clam resources inside 3 miles) and within 200 miles. Surf clams and ocean quahog clams will each be restricted to production of about 30 million pounds of meats annually for the year beginning in October 1977. Surf clam production will be further divided by quarters to allow more even production over the year. Of the total 30-million-pounds quota, about 20 percent will be landed in the quarter beginning in October 1977 with 20, 30, and 30 percent to be landed in the following three quarters. For ocean quahog clams, the 30-million-pound quota is mostly a guideline and can be revised if the resource is though to be able to support a higher harvest rate.

The 30-million-pound quota for surf clam is a sharp reduction from the 49.1 million pounds landed in 1976, but increased production of ocean quahog clams is expected to offset lower production of surf clams. As a result, severe market distortions are not likely.

The Secretary of Commerce has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business required by law of this department. Use of funds for printing this publication approved by the Office of Management and Budget, July 26, 1973; this approval expires June 30, 1978.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX

Table A1.--U.S. imports of shrimp by country of origin, January-June 1976 and 1977

(Product weight)

Country	1976	1977	1977 as a percentage of 1976	Percentage of total imports	
				1976	1977
	Million pounds			Percent	
North America					
Mexico	30.8	34.6	112.3	29.3	30.4
Panama	5.0	4.5	90.0	4.8	4.0
Nicaragua	3.4	3.7	108.8	3.2	3.2
El Salvador	2.5	1.7	68.0	2.4	1.5
Guatemala	1.2	1.2	100.0	1.1	1.1
Greenland	-	1.1	-	-	1.0
Honduras	.9	.8	88.9	.9	.7
Costa Rica	1.3	.6	46.2	1.2	.5
Other	1.2	1.6	133.3	1.1	1.4
Total	46.2	49.8	107.8	43.9	43.7
South America					
Ecuador	3.9	4.7	120.5	3.7	4.1
Colombia	3.0	2.4	80.9	2.9	2.1
Venezuela	3.4	2.1	61.8	3.2	1.8
Surinam	2.4	1.9	79.2	2.3	1.7
Brazil	.9	1.7	188.9	.9	1.5
Guyana	2.3	1.6	69.6	2.2	1.4
French Guiana	1.1	.8	72.7	1.0	.7
Other	.3	.5	166.7	.3	.4
Total	17.3	15.7	90.8	16.4	13.8
Europe					
Total	.7	1.1	157.1	.7	1.0
Asia					
India	23.9	26.3	110.0	22.7	23.1
Indonesia	1.9	2.7	142.1	18.1	2.4
Thailand	1.4	2.5	178.6	13.3	2.2
Hong Kong	2.6	2.2	118.2	2.5	1.9
Iran	.2	2.2	1,110.0	.2	1.9
Bangladesh	2.2	2.1	95.5	2.1	1.8
Taiwan	1.6	1.6	100.0	1.5	1.4
Malaysia	1.1	1.5	136.4	1.0	1.3
Kuwait	.8	1.3	162.5	.8	1.1
Other	3.9	3.0	76.9	3.7	2.6
Total	39.8	45.3	113.8	37.8	39.8
Australia & Oceania					
Total	.3	.5	166.7	.3	.4
Africa					
Total	1.0	1.5	150.0	1.0	1.3
Grand total	105.2	113.9	108.3	100.0	100.0

Table A 2-- Supply and utilization of fresh and frozen shrimp, monthly, 1976 and 1977

(Heads-off weight)

Month	Supply				Utilization					
						Exports			Apparent consumption	
	Beginning stocks	Landings 1/	Imports	Total	Ending stocks	Fresh & frozen	Foreign	Canned pack 2/	Total	Per capita
	Million pounds									Pounds
1976										
January	47.4	5.5	21.9	74.8	42.7	1.8	0.6	0.1	39.6	0.138
February	42.7	4.9	17.2	64.8	38.4	1.8	.3	3/	24.3	.113
March	38.4	4.4	21.9	64.8	40.4	1.7	.4	-	22.2	.106
1st quarter	47.4	14.8	61.1	123.3	40.4	5.3	1.3	.2	76.1	.457
April	40.4	4.5	19.9	64.8	35.6	2.3	.4	-	26.4	.123
May	35.6	16.1	18.2	70.0	35.9	1.3	.3	5.2	27.1	.126
June	35.9	23.0	23.1	82.0	42.1	1.5	.4	7.7	30.2	.141
2d quarter	40.4	43.7	61.2	145.3	42.1	5.1	1.1	12.9	83.9	.390
July	42.1	20.7	22.4	85.2	44.7	1.9	.5	3.2	34.9	.163
August	44.7	16.3	18.2	79.2	48.6	1.7	.7	1.3	26.9	.125
September	48.6	18.8	18.3	85.8	52.9	1.6	.5	.6	30.1	.140
3d quarter	42.1	55.8	58.9	156.9	52.9	5.2	1.7	5.2	91.9	.428
October	52.9	17.3	24.3	94.5	56.3	1.9	.6	1.9	33.8	.157
November	56.3	11.3	31.3	98.9	67.9	3.2	2.7	1.4	23.8	.111
December	67.9	6.0	29.1	102.9	61.0	2.7	1.5	.4	37.2	.173
4th quarter	52.9	34.6	84.7	172.2	61.0	7.8	4.8	3.7	94.8	.441
1977										
January	61.0	3.0	22.0	86.1	62.4	1.4	.6	.2	21.5	.100
February	62.4	2.8	19.8	85.0	55.5	1.2	.6	.2	27.5	.128
March	55.5	3.8	25.8	85.1	54.3	1.3	.4	-	29.1	.135
1st quarter	61.0	9.6	67.6	138.2	54.3	3.9	1.6	.4	78.0	.363
April	54.3	5.2	21.5	81.0	52.7	1.5	.7	-	26.0	.120
May	52.7	19.8	21.1	93.5	56.4	1.7	1.3	7.5	26.7	.124
June	56.4	26.4	24.6	107.3	63.4	1.9	.4	8.8	32.8	.152
2d quarter	54.3	51.4	67.1	172.7	63.4	5.1	2.5	16.3	85.4	.396

1/ South Atlantic, Gulf and New England only.
2/ Gulf States only.
3/ Less than 50,000 pounds.

Note: Figures may not add to total because of rounding.

Table A 3--Supply and utilization of all shrimp, monthly, 1976 and 1977

(Heads-off weight)

Month	Supply				Utilization					
						Exports			Apparent consumption	
	Beginning stocks	Landings	Imports	Total	Ending stocks	Fresh & frozen	Canned	Foreign shrimp	Total	Per capita
	Million pounds									Pounds
1976										
January	47.4	12.3	22.1	81.8	42.7	8.1	1.1	0.6	35.6	0.166
February	42.7	12.0	17.4	72.1	38.4	1.8	.8	.3	30.8	.144
March	38.4	5.7	22.5	66.6	40.4	1.7	.8	.4	23.3	.109
1st quarter	47.4	30.0	62.0	139.4	40.4	5.3	2.7	1.3	89.7	.419
April	40.4	6.5	20.3	67.2	35.6	2.3	2.3	.4	26.6	.124
May	35.6	22.6	18.4	76.6	35.9	1.3	1.0	.3	38.1	.178
June	35.9	34.5	23.6	94.0	42.1	1.5	.5	.4	49.5	.231
2d quarter	40.4	63.6	62.3	166.3	42.1	1.5	3.8	1.1	114.2	.533
July	42.1	36.2	23.1	101.4	44.7	1.9	2.0	.5	52.3	.243
August	44.7	26.4	18.8	89.9	48.6	1.7	1.5	.7	37.4	.174
September	48.6	34.8	18.4	101.8	52.9	1.6	1.5	.5	45.3	.211
3d quarter	42.1	97.4	60.3	199.8	52.9	5.2	5.0	1.7	135.0	.628
October	52.9	28.9	24.5	106.3	56.3	1.9	.5	.6	46.0	.218
November	56.3	15.5	31.6	103.4	67.9	3.2	1.4	2.7	28.2	.131
December	67.9	7.8	30.0	105.7	61.0	2.7	1.2	1.5	39.3	.182
4th quarter	52.9	52.2	86.1	191.2	61.0	7.8	4.1	4.8	113.5	.527
1977										
January	61.1	9.3	22.3	92.6	62.4	1.4	1.0	.6	27.2	.126
February	62.4	5.6	20.4	88.4	55.5	1.2	.6	.6	30.5	.141
March	55.5	4.7	26.0	86.2	54.3	1.3	.3	.4	29.9	.139
1st quarter	61.0	19.6	68.7	149.3	54.3	3.9	1.9	1.6	87.6	.406
April	54.3	6.1	22.4	82.8	52.7	1.5	.3	.7	27.6	.128
May	52.7	29.0	21.9	103.6	56.4	1.7	.9	1.3	43.3	.200
June	56.4	40.9	25.3	122.6	63.4	1.9	3.6	.4	53.3	.247
2d quarter	54.3	76.0	69.6	199.9	63.4	5.1	4.8	2.5	124.1	.575

Note: Figures may not add to total because of rounding.

Table A 4--Exvessel, wholesale, and retail prices of raw headless shrimp, monthly, 1975-77

Month	Exvessel 1/			Wholesale 2/			Retail 3/	
	21-25	31-40	51-67	21-25	31-40	51-60	21-25	36-42
	Dollars per pound							
1975								
January	1.59	1.26	0.84	1.94	1.62	1.21	2.88	2.54
February	1.82	1.46	.98	2.19	1.75	1.30	2.84	2.54
March	2.07	1.63	1.13	2.49	1.94	1.44	3.04	2.56
April	2.32	1.84	1.28	2.79	2.18	1.64	3.50	3.01
May	2.65	2.08	1.37	3.07	2.56	1.76	4.42	3.44
June	2.55	1.95	1.23	3.01	2.49	1.75	4.08	3.42
July	2.56	1.95	1.26	2.92	2.38	1.65	4.31	3.45
August	2.67	2.08	1.35	3.09	2.52	1.79	4.19	3.44
September	2.85	2.23	1.36	3.17	2.62	1.74	4.19	3.72
October	2.90	2.30	1.34	3.30	2.72	1.75	4.33	3.72
November	2.96	2.39	1.40	3.41	2.80	1.76	4.49	3.79
December	3.04	2.48	1.41	3.49	2.90	1.94	4.76	4.02
1976								
January	3.21	2.57	1.43	3.67	3.04	2.06	4.56	3.79
February	3.24	2.84	1.55	3.96	3.27	2.25	4.74	3.64
March	3.46	2.82	1.60	3.97	3.30	2.26	4.90	3.86
April	3.59	2.98	1.75	4.26	3.60	2.41	5.04	3.96
May	4.06	3.17	1.79	4.73	3.84	2.44	5.18	4.45
June	4.03	2.74	1.33	4.77	3.60	2.25	5.14	4.39
July	3.42	2.26	1.42	4.41	3.08	1.94	5.03	3.85
August	3.01	2.17	1.55	3.78	2.80	2.05	5.21	3.57
September	3.30	2.37	1.56	4.02	3.02	2.17	4.74	3.36
October	3.15	2.31	1.35	3.81	2.90	2.11	4.86	3.69
November	3.53	2.58	1.45	4.08	3.03	2.15	5.14	3.59
December	3.65	2.66	1.45	4.17	3.22	2.22	5.14	3.59
1977								
January	3.73	2.81	1.53	4.18	3.20	2.16	5.26	4.39
February	3.83	2.88	1.60	4.27	3.31	2.22	5.44	4.54
March	3.96	3.04	1.75	4.36	3.39	2.33	5.49	4.27
April	3.67	2.69	1.48	4.33	3.31	2.30	5.60	3.94
May	3.64	2.56	-	4.28	3.14	2.11	5.66	3.68
June 4/	3.69	2.38	-	4.36	3.01	1.84	5.45	3.69
July 4/	3.63	2.14	-	4.30	2.71	1.79	5.19	3.55
August 4/	2.90	2.07	-	3.77	2.63	1.94	5.29	3.19
September 4/	2.63	2.04	-	3.44	2.70	1.96	5.29	3.28

1/ Weighted average, all species, South Atlantic and Gulf.
2/ At New York, NY.
3/ At Baltimore, Md.
4/ Preliminary.

Table A 5--Supply and utilization of scallops, monthly, 1976 and 1977
(Product weight)

Month	Supply				Utilization		
	Beginning stocks	Landings 1/	Imports	Total	Ending stocks	Apparent consumption	
						Total	Per capita
	Million pounds						Pounds
1976							
January	2.0	0.6	1.3	4.0	1.9	2.1	0.009
February	1.9	.8	.9	3.6	1.8	1.8	.008
March	1.8	1.0	1.3	4.2	1.7	2.5	.011
1st quarter	2.0	2.5	3.6	8.1	1.7	6.4	.028
April	1.7	1.3	1.8	4.7	1.8	2.9	.013
May	1.8	1.4	2.6	5.8	2.5	3.3	.015
June	2.5	2.4	3.4	8.3	3.0	5.3	.024
2d quarter	1.7	5.1	7.8	14.5	3.0	11.5	.052
July	3.0	2.8	2.4	8.3	3.7	4.6	.021
August	3.7	2.3	3.0	9.0	4.4	4.5	.021
September	4.4	1.9	3.1	9.4	4.7	4.7	.022
3d quarter	3.0	7.0	8.5	18.5	4.7	13.8	.064
October	4.7	1.2	2.2	8.1	4.7	3.4	.016
November	4.7	1.3	1.6	7.5	5.1	2.4	.011
December	5.1	1.2	1.7	8.0	4.9	3.1	.014
4th quarter	4.7	3.7	5.4	13.8	4.9	8.9	.041
1977							
January	4.9	1.0	1.2	7.1	4.4	2.8	.013
February	4.4	1.2	.9	6.5	4.1	2.3	.011
March	4.1	1.8	1.8	7.7	3.6	4.1	.019
1st quarter	4.9	4.0	3.9	12.8	3.6	9.2	.043
April	3.6	2.1	1.7	7.4	3.2	4.2	.019
May	3.2	2.6	2.7	8.5	3.7	4.8	.022
June	3.7	2.9	4.1	10.7	4.4	6.2	.029
2d quarter	3.6	7.6	8.5	19.6	4.4	15.6	.070

1/ Landings of sea scallops only (in Maine, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, and Alaska).
Note: Figures may not add to total because of rounding.

Table A 6--Exvessel, wholesale, and retail prices for sea scallops, monthly, 1974-77

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Dollars per pound											
Exvessel 1/												
1974	1.88	1.81	1.87	1.55	1.37	1.46	1.40	1.53	1.50	1.49	1.49	1.52
1975	1.57	1.71	1.62	1.72	1.62	1.72	1.78	1.91	2.00	2.32	2.36	2.29
1976	2.45	2.43	2.39	2.10	1.87	1.87	1.54	1.38	1.56	2.00	2.00	1.75
1977	1.94	1.73	1.66	1.48	1.39	1.36	1.42					
Wholesale 2/												
1974	2.19	2.10	2.10	1.82	1.76	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
1975	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.95	1.92	2.00	2.06	2.10	2.25	2.51	2.68	2.68
1976	2.72	2.85	2.97	2.89	-	-	2.00	2.00	2.02	2.11	2.13	2.10
1977	2.08	2.08	2.00	1.99	1.89	1.68	1.65	1.80	1.88			
Retail 3/												
1974	2.84	2.84	2.99	2.99	2.99	2.94	2.90	2.77	2.72	2.80	2.83	2.78
1975	2.62	2.54	2.84	2.83	2.95	2.98	3.06	3.20	3.36	3.51	3.92	4.04
1976	4.42	3.80	3.72	3.78	3.64	3.34	3.36	2.80	3.07	3.36	3.42	3.54
1977	3.70	3.53	3.45	3.25	2.94	2.81	2.60	2.83	3.03			

1/ Weighted average at New Bedford, Mass.
2/ At Boston, Mass.
3/ At Baltimore, Md.

Table A7 --Supply of American lobster, monthly, 1976-77
(Live weight)

Month	Total landings	Imports				Grand total
		Live	In airtight containers	Other	Total	
	Thousand pounds					
1976						
January	737	1,602	263	594	2,459	3,196
February	234	746	42	291	1,079	1,313
March	292	882	45	342	1,269	1,561
1st quarter	1,263	3,230	350	1,227	4,807	6,070
April	755	1,454	33	673	2,160	2,915
May	1,363	2,447	368	1,479	4,294	5,657
June	1,609	3,512	1,280	2,050	6,842	8,451
2d quarter	3,727	7,413	1,681	4,202	13,296	17,023
July	3,005	1,332	632	941	2,905	5,910
August	4,419	783	378	767	1,929	6,348
September	4,520	327	335	1,088	1,750	6,270
3d quarter	11,944	2,442	1,346	2,796	6,584	18,528
October	3,811	126	354	673	1,153	4,964
November	2,512	282	326	605	1,213	3,725
December	1,236	1,414	211	456	2,081	3,317
4th quarter	7,559	1,882	891	1,734	4,447	12,006
1977						
January	461	704	39	521	1,264	1,725
February	254	354	36	617	1,007	1,261
March	347	925	66	609	1,600	1,947
1st quarter	1,062	1,983	141	1,747	3,871	4,933
April	756	1,384	213	240	1,837	2,593
May	1,810	3,116	270	1,039	4,425	6,235
June	1,500	3,184	349	3,156	6,689	8,189
2d quarter	4,006	7,684	832	4,435	12,951	17,017

Note: Figures may not add to total because of rounding.

Table A 8--Exvessel and wholesale prices for American lobsters, monthly, 1976-77

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Dollars per pound											
Exvessel 1/												
1975	1.61	2.00	2.30	2.25	1.69	1.86	1.71	1.63	1.46	1.52	1.53	1.57
1976	2.24	2.47	2.80	2.10	1.67	1.72	1.52	1.36	1.34	1.43	1.58	1.80
1977	2.95	3.01	2.92	1.89	1.77	1.91	1.59	1.65	1.47			
Wholesale 2/												
1975												
CHIX	2.32	2.76	3.04	3.48	2.20	2.29	2.68	3.09	2.88	2.55	2.45	2.56
1-1/8 lb	2.36	2.78	3.04	3.48	2.20	2.29	2.68	3.11	2.92	2.62	2.52	2.64
1-1/4 lb	2.44	2.82	3.04	3.48	2.19	2.32	2.69	3.14	2.98	2.72	2.62	2.73
1-1/2 lb	2.65	2.96	3.18	3.65	2.31	2.42	2.70	3.25	3.39	3.16	2.99	2.94
2 lb	2.83	3.12	3.54	2.82	2.39	2.53	2.70	3.29	3.49	3.26	3.02	3.01
1976												
CHIX	3.02	3.14	3.46	3.10	2.30	2.63	2.77	2.76	2.70	2.51	2.61	3.43
1-1/8 lb	3.07	3.16	3.48	3.10	2.30	2.63	2.77	2.76	2.72	2.52	2.61	2.44
1-1/4 lb	3.15	3.21	3.52	3.12	2.31	2.66	2.79	2.79	3.75	2.56	2.69	3.46
1-1/2 lb	3.26	3.36	3.84	3.42	2.94	2.78	2.81	3.10	3.16	2.78	2.92	2.64
2 lb	3.30	3.51	3.12	3.62	2.55	2.80	2.84	31.8	3.32	2.92	3.06	3.70
1977												
CHIX	4.00	4.25	3.62	2.78	2.46	2.54	2.89	3.09				
1-1/8 lb	4.00	4.28	3.62	2.78	2.46	2.54	2.89	3.06				
1-1/4 lb	4.04	4.34	3.64	2.78	2.46	2.54	2.89	3.14				
1-1/2 lb	4.24	4.52	3.96	3.14	2.69	2.68	2.93	3.50				
2 lb	4.26	4.61	4.06	3.16	2.71	2.69	2.94	3.58				

1/ Weighted average in Maine
2/ At New York, NY.

Table A9 --Total imports of lobster tails, January-June, 1974-77
(Product weight)

Country	1974	1975	1976	1977
	Thousand pounds			
North America				
Honduras	134	393	603	383
Nicaragua	366	708	663	1,318
Bahamas	223	169	238	326
Other	692	637	811	822
Total	1,415	1,907	2,315	2,849
South America				
Brazil	2,456	2,772	2,043	2,097
Other	230	88	62	308
Total	2,686	2,860	2,105	2,405
Europe				
Total	181	73	288	427
Asia				
India	425	426	536	507
Singapore	366	131	480	141
Other	1,417	661	1,011	1,324
Total	2,208	1,218	2,027	1,972
Australia & Oceania				
Australia	5,632	6,895	6,506	6,788
New Zealand	1,276	1,393	1,403	1,341
Other	110	11	76	90
Total	7,018	8,300	7,985	8,219
Africa				
Rep. of South Africa	2,073	2,747	3,246	2,845
Other	487	1/	18	186
Total	2,560	2,748	3,264	3,031
Grand total	16,069	17,122	17,984	18,905

Table A10-- Supply and utilization of lobster tails, monthly, 1976 and 1977
(Product weight)

Month	Supply			Utilization		
	Beginning stocks	Imports	Total	Ending stocks	Apparent consumption	
					Total	Per capita
	Million pounds					Pounds
1976						
January	2.7	3.1	5.8	3.5	2.3	0.011
February	3.5	3.1	6.5	3.6	2.9	.014
March	3.6	3.8	7.4	4.2	3.2	.015
1st quarter	2.7	9.9	12.6	4.2	8.4	.040
April	4.2	2.3	6.5	4.4	2.1	.010
May	4.4	2.3	6.7	3.5	3.1	.014
June	3.5	3.5	7.1	3.7	3.3	.015
2d quarter	4.2	8.1	12.3	3.7	8.5	.039
July	3.7	2.9	6.6	4.1	2.5	.012
August	4.1	2.6	6.7	4.5	2.2	.010
September	4.5	3.1	7.6	5.0	2.6	.012
3d quarter	3.7	8.6	12.4	5.0	7.4	.032
October	5.0	1.6	6.6	5.3	1.3	.006
November	5.3	2.4	7.7	5.4	2.3	.011
December	5.4	2.7	8.1	6.2	1.9	.009
4th quarter	5.0	6.7	11.7	6.2	5.5	.026
1977						
January	6.2	3.4	9.6	6.7	2.9	.013
February	6.7	3.6	10.3	6.4	3.9	.018
March	6.4	3.8	10.1	6.1	4.1	.019
1st quarter	6.2	10.8	17.0	6.1	11.0	.050
April	6.1	1.9	7.9	5.7	2.2	.010
May	5.7	2.7	8.4	5.2	3.3	.015
June	5.2	3.6	8.7	5.4	3.8	.018
2d quarter	6.1	8.1	14.2	5.4	8.8	.043

Table A11-- Wholesale prices for selected sizes of cold and warm-water lobster tail, monthly, 1976-77

Size	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Dollars per pound											
1976												
Cold-water												
4-6 oz	6.01	6.04	6.23	6.74	7.18	7.44	7.48	7.47	7.42	7.52	7.68	7.70
6-8 oz	6.06	6.06	6.18	6.68	7.13	7.35	7.39	7.36	7.23	7.36	7.50	7.61
8-10 oz	6.07	6.07	6.18	6.62	7.05	7.22	7.35	7.30	7.20	7.24	7.31	7.50
10-12 oz	6.09	6.08	6.15	6.48	6.90	7.15	7.15	7.21	7.06	7.22	7.28	7.43
12-16 oz	6.04	6.02	6.14	6.48	6.92	7.05	7.05	7.08	6.73	6.77	6.85	6.87
Warm-water												
4-6 oz	5.44	5.43	5.47	5.74	6.00	6.39	6.51	6.32	5.98	5.87	5.77	5.74
6-8 oz	5.37	5.38	5.42	5.69	5.92	6.38	6.54	6.37	5.94	5.93	5.85	5.84
8-10 oz	5.09	5.15	5.21	5.54	5.77	6.16	6.23	6.06	5.68	5.63	5.58	5.51
10-12 oz	4.79	4.86	4.94	5.34	5.60	5.94	6.18	5.62	5.34	5.36	5.29	5.26
12-16 oz	4.73	4.79	4.82	5.27	5.45	5.88	6.09	5.66	5.50	5.23	5.14	5.10
1977												
Cold-water												
4-6 oz	7.46	7.35	7.41	7.45	7.54	7.64	7.71	7.72	7.73			
6-8 oz	7.49	7.36	7.40	7.45	7.50	7.59	7.63	7.65	7.63			
8-10 oz	7.44	7.34	7.38	7.45	7.49	7.52	7.52	7.50	7.47			
10-12 oz	7.39	7.37	7.40	7.48	7.52	7.52	7.49	7.49	7.45			
12-16 oz	6.86	6.92	6.98	7.02	7.10	7.14	7.08	7.07	7.10			
Warm-water												
4-oz	5.81	5.84	5.80	5.84	5.87	5.92	5.85	5.60	5.51			
6-8 oz	5.92	5.94	5.90	5.96	6.05	5.98	5.88	5.69	5.55			
8-10 oz	5.66	5.71	5.66	5.78	5.86	5.77	5.67	5.48	5.33			
10-12 oz	5.31	5.38	5.38	5.37	5.39	5.37	5.25	5.04	4.84			
12-16 oz	5.14	5.26	5.24	5.25	5.33	5.30	5.19	4.97	4.76			

Table A12--Landings of king and snow crab, monthly, 1976 and 1977
(Live weight)

Month	1976			1977		
	King	Snow	Total	King	Snow	Total
	Million pounds					
January	2.6	6.9	9.5	3.9	6.1	10.0
February	1.0	9.8	10.8	.3	11.4	11.7
March	1.0	17.2	18.2	.2	17.1	17.3
1st quarter	4.6	33.9	38.5	4.4	35.0	39.4
April	1/	22.6	22.6	1/	21.3	21.3
May	2.4	13.5	15.9	1/	24.4	24.4
June	-	8.5	8.5	1/	13.7	13.7
2d quarter	2.4	44.6	47.0	1/	59.3	59.4
July	-	.4	.4			
August	3.4	-	3.4			
September	13.3	1/	13.3			
3d quarter	16.7	.4	17.1			
October	36.5	.1	36.6			
November	30.2	.3	30.5			
December	15.4	1.5	16.9			
4th quarter	82.1	1.9	84.0			

1/ Less than 51,000 pounds.
Note: Figures may not add to total because of rounding.

Table A13--Wholesale prices for king and snow crab meat, monthly, 1974-77

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Dollars per pound											
King crab												
Chicago												
1974	5.20	5.15	5.15	5.12	4.99	4.89	4.80	4.58	4.18	3.79	3.34	3.20
1975	3.04	2.88	2.99	3.18	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.41	3.50	3.65	2.82	3.92
1976	4.12	4.14	4.29	4.44	4.65	4.72	-	-	-	5.88	5.93	5.99
1977	6.08	5.96	5.97	6.09	6.25	6.41	6.67	6.83	6.92			
New York												
1974	5.21	5.15	5.15	5.18	5.00	4.84	4.70	4.52	4.12	3.68	3.28	3.18
1975	2.94	2.87	3.05	3.20	3.40	3.45	3.35	3.24	3.52	3.64	3.70	3.96
1976	4.21	4.28	4.36	4.48	4.69	5.01	5.32	5.58	5.60	-	5.98	6.01
1977	6.01	5.92	5.92	6.14	6.35	6.30	6.69	6.88	7.01			
Snow crab												
Chicago												
1974	-	-	3.30	3.31	3.18	2.97	2.94	2.70	2.40	2.30	2.32	2.23
1973	-	2.89	-	3.15	3.16	3.06	3.07	3.10	3.26	3.38	3.34	3.35
1974	-	-	3.30	3.31	3.18	2.97	2.94	2.70	2.40	2.30	3.32	2.23
1975	2.28	1.98	2.16	2.22	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.49	2.45	2.60	2.48	2.48
1976	2.62	2.62	-	-	3.45	3.45	-	-	3.72	3.72	3.72	3.78
1977	3.78	3.79	3.82	3.82	-	4.02	4.05	4.05	3.94			
New York												
1974	3.25	3.26	3.35	3.41	3.33	3.11	2.88	2.80	2.55	2.46	2.28	2.27
1975	2.18	2.06	2.09	2.22	2.35	2.43	2.44	2.43	2.48	2.51	2.48	2.50
1976	2.61	2.78	3.22	3.70	3.80	3.96	3.90	3.61	3.53	3.51	3.45	3.58
1977	3.60	3.92	3.90	3.88	3.89	4.10	4.10	4.08	3.84			

Table A14--Exvessel, wholesale,and retail prices of oyster meats, monthly, 1974-77

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Dollars per pound						
Exvessel 1/												
1974	0.66	0.62	0.69	0.75	0.66	0.78	0.75	1.08	0.73	0.68	0.73	0.78
1975	.68	.68	.57	.83	.73	.73	.71	.80	.80	.87	.94	.95
1976	1.00	1.08	.93	1.08	.95	.94	.95	.99	.93	.98	1.10	1.24
1977	1.43	1.33	1.07	.98	.88	1.14	1.10	1.21				
						Dollars per gallon						
Wholesale, Eastern 2/												
1974	10.50	10.75	10.50	10.50	11.00	11.00	10.75	11.75	12.50	11.50	10.75	11.25
1975	11.25	10.38	10.75	11.88	11.75	11.50	12.00	13.00	13.00	12.75	12.75	13.25
1976	12.75	12.75	12.00	12.75	12.75	13.50	14.50	13.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.75
1977	14.75	16.50	14.50	15.75	15.75	16.50	16.50	17.00	17.00			
Olympia 3/												
1974	52.50	52.50	52.50	55.00	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50
1975	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50
1976	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50	57.50
1977	57.50	71.50	71.50	71.50	71.50	71.50	71.50	71.50	71.50			
Pacific 3/												
1974	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90
1975	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90
1976	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	11.05	11.20	11.20	11.29	11.64	11.65
1977	11.65	11.65	12.03	12.40	12.40	12.40	13.45	13.45	13.45			
						Dollars per 12-oz. can						
Retail Eastern 4/												
1974	1.75	1.73	1.71	1.78	-	-	-	-	-	1.96	1.93	1.92
1975	1.92	1.87	1.85	1.84	-	-	-	-	-	2.06	2.02	2.02
1976	2.04	1.99	1.98	1.99	-	-	-	-	2.29	2.22	2.22	2.24
1977	2.29	2.43	2.39	2.24	-	-	-	-				

1/ Weighted average, Maryland and Virginia.
2/ Standards, at Norfolk, Virginia.
3/ At Seattle.
4/ Standards, at Baltimore.

Table A15--Exvessel prices for hard, soft, surf, and ocean quahog clam meats, monthly, 1974-77

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual average
						Dollars per pound							
Hard 1/													
1974	1.52	1.76	1.63	1.66	1.51	1.81	1.49	1.68	1.93	1.42	1.48	1.62	1.63
1975	1.53	1.52	1.73	1.74	1.44	1.47	1.66	1.69	1.78	1.58	1.40	1.71	1.61
1976	2.41	2.20	2.25	1.71	2.00	2.03	2.00	1.97	2.11	1.80	1.75	2.12	2.01
1977	3.43	2.50	2.02	2.18	1.73	1.83	1.83						
Soft 2/													
1974	.77	.69	.74	.66	.73	.76	.86	.84	.89	.90	.75	.76	.79
1975	.80	.75	.80	.82	.76	.82	.86	1.03	.94	.91	.98	.93	.88
1976	1.50	1.16	.96	.92	1.03	1.10	1.21	1.27	1.15	1.01	1.10	1.32	1.13
1977	1.27	1.26	1.07	1.13	1.00	1.10	1.42	1.44					
Surf 3/													
1974	.12	.11	.11	.12	.14	.15	.14	.15	.15	.15	.14	.13	.13
1975	.12	.12	.12	.12	.14	.14	.14	.15	.14	.13	.13	.13	.13
1976	.24	.26	.34	.36	.52	.54	.55	.58	.58	.56	.58	.52	.44
1977	.52	.51	.54	.54	.63	.59	.47	.44	.44				
Ocean quahog 4/													
1974	.17	.17	.18	.17	.17	.17	.17	.17	.17	.17	.18	.20	.17
1975	.19	.19	.19	.19	.19	.19	.20	.20	.19	.19	.21	.20	.19
1976	.22	.22	.24	.24	.24	.23	.23	.27	.27	.27	.28	-	.25
1977	.30	.30	.30	.27	.28	.27	.27	.28	.29				

1/ Weighted average, New York.
2/ Weighted average, Maine and Maryland.
3/ Weighted average, New Jersey.
4/ Weighted average, Rhode Island.

Table A16-- Wholesale prices of hard, soft, and surf clams, at New York, monthly, 1973-77

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Dollars per bushel											
Hard chowders												
1973	6.75	6.75	6.25	6.25	5.75	5.25	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	6.25	6.00
1974	6.50	6.50	6.25	7.00	6.25	6.25	6.25	5.75	6.75	6.25	6.75	6.75
1975	6.75	6.50	6.75	7.00	6.75	6.25	6.75	6.50	7.00	7.25	7.00	7.50
1976	10.50	11.00	7.50	7.50	7.31	7.50	7.01	7.56	7.88	8.55	8.81	10.00
1977	12.88	13.00	9.50	8.35	8.06	8.15	7.81	8.50	8.50			
Hard, cherry-stones												
1973	13.87	15.75	15.25	14.75	14.00	13.00	14.25	13.50	14.25	12.75	13.00	13.50
1974	14.60	15.25	14.88	14.38	14.30	14.12	14.33	14.17	14.33	14.00	14.33	15.17
1975	15.20	14.88	16.13	15.70	14.50	14.63	15.00	14.88	15.75	15.40	15.13	16.67
1976	19.25	17.50	15.30	14.75	15.50	15.10	14.84	15.44	15.88	15.70	16.00	17.70
1977	23.38	20.38	15.25	14.60	15.00	15.50	15.50	17.50	16.00			
Hard, little-necks												
1973	39.00	35.83	33.75	33.25	25.00	26.75	33.50	33.75	35.50	25.50	29.67	28.00
1974	33.20	36.38	35.62	32.75	30.20	28.12	32.50	29.33	35.83	31.33	29.00	36.67
1975	34.40	34.38	37.25	34.80	30.00	32.25	35.10	35.88	39.50	34.13	31.04	35.35
1976	48.31	43.75	34.58	32.50	34.50	34.25	34.14	36.25	40.75	35.10	36.50	44.80
1977	57.25	44.75	41.75	36.80	36.25	39.00	39.50	42.50	46.00			
Soft												
1973	24.00	22.50	16.50	21.50	20.00	16.00	21.50	23.50	20.00	18.00	18.00	18.50
1974	18.00	18.50	18.00	18.00	17.50	18.50	18.00	17.50	18.50	20.50	19.50	18.50
1975	18.50	18.50	19.00	16.00	16.00	16.50	17.00	30.50	31.00	26.00	27.50	30.00
1976	31.00	25.00	20.00	23.00	23.00	24.39	34.81	34.50	33.50	30.20	28.25	32.50
1977	30.75	32.33	28.25	26.40	24.50	24.50	25.00	30.00	34.50			
	Dollars per gallon											
Surf, minced												
1975	-	-	-	5.25	5.25	5.50	5.25	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	6.12
1976	6.75	8.50	9.25	9.25	9.75	10.31	10.00	10.31	11.25	11.19	11.56	12.12
1977	12.50	12.00	11.81	11.80	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	17.00			
Surf, strips												
1975	-	-	-	6.25	-	6.25	6.25	6.75	6.50	6.75	7.50	7.12
1976	7.75	9.50	11.00	11.00	11.25	11.83	11.50	12.18	12.83	12.83	13.00	14.00
1977	14.00	14.00	13.50	13.50	13.69	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75			

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